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OFFICE OF PETITIONS

In re Application of	:	
Ohno et al.	:	
Application No. 10/633,555	:	DECISION ON PETITION
Filed: August 5, 2003	:	
Attorney Docket No. 1405.1073	:	

This is a decision on the petition, filed May 2, 2008, which is being treated as a petition under 37 CFR 1.8(b), requesting withdrawal of the holding of abandonment in the above-identified application.

The petition is **DISMISSED**.

Any request for reconsideration of this decision should be filed within two (2) months from the mail date of this decision. *Note* 37 CFR 1.181(f). The request for reconsideration should include a cover letter and be entitled as a "Renewed Petition under 37 CFR 1.181 to Withdraw the Holding of Abandonment."

This application was held abandoned for failure to timely respond to the Office action of March 1, 2007, which set a three (3) month shortened statutory period for reply. Accordingly, a reply was due on or before June 1, 2007. A Notice of Abandonment was mailed on September 26, 2007.

Petitioner states that a timely reply was sent via facsimile transmittal on July 2, 2007.

The submission of the petition to withdraw the holding of abandonment is untimely. 37 CFR 1.181(f) provides that, inter alia, except as otherwise provided, any petition not filed within 2 months of the mail date of a notice of abandonment (the action complained of) may be dismissed as untimely. The Notice of Abandonment was mailed on September 26, 2007; a petition was not filed in this application until May 2, 2008. Thus, the petition is untimely.

Petitioner should consider filing a petition under 37 CFR 1.137(b) stating that the delay was unintentional. Public Law 97-247, § 3, 96 Stat. 317 (1982), which revised patent and trademark fees, amended 35 U.S.C. § 41(a)(7) to provide for the revival of an "unintentionally" abandoned application without a showing that the delay in prosecution

or in late payment of the issue fee was “unavoidable.” This amendment to 35 U.S.C. § 41(a)(7) has been implemented in 37 CFR 1.137(b). An “unintentional” petition under 37 CFR 1.137(b) must be accompanied by the \$770.00 (small entity) petition fee.

The filing of a petition under 37 CFR 1.137(b) cannot be intentionally delayed and therefore must be filed promptly. A person seeking revival due to unintentional delay cannot make a statement that the delay was unintentional unless the entire delay, including the date it was discovered that the application was abandoned until the filing of the petition to revive under 37 CFR 1.137(b), was unintentional. A statement that the delay was unintentional is not appropriate if petitioner intentionally delayed the filing of a petition for revival under 37 CFR 1.137(b).

Further correspondence with respect to this matter should be addressed as follows:

By mail: Mail Stop Petition
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

By facsimile: (571) 273-8300

By delivery service:
(FedEx, UPS, DHL, etc.)

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Customer Service Window,
Randolph Building
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Telephone inquiries concerning this matter should be directed to the undersigned at (571) 272-3215.

Charles Grant

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